

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
DOEE-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12  
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OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02 DOE-11 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15  
USIA-15 NRC-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /172 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MARCH 17 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL  
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX

1. UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT  
CARTER, SPEAKING MARCH 17 AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY,  
WARNED USSR AGAINST USING ITS MILITARY MIGHT TO TRY  
"POLITICAL BLACKMAIL" OF U.S. INTERESTS IN WORLD AND SAID  
U.S. CAN READILY AFFORD TO SPEND MORE ON ITS OWN ARSENAL  
IF NEEDED TO PROTECT PEACE. UPI SAID "IN GET-TOUGH  
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SPEECH BILLED AS MAJOR DEFENSE STATEMENT,"ARTER TOLD HIS  
AUDIENCE OF SOVIET ARMS BUILDUP AND AN "OMINOUS INCLINATION  
ON PART OF SOVIET UNION TO USE ITS MILITARY POWER" TO  
INTERVENE IN AFRICA AND OTHER CRISIS SPOTS. BESIDES  
GREATER STRATEGIC ARMS, CARTER SAID SOVIETS ALSO HAVE  
BUILT UP "MASSIVE" NON-NUCLEAR FORCES. TO PROTECT U.S.  
AND MAINTAIN PEACE, PRESIDENT SAID, "WE SHALL HAVE TO

CONTINUE TO SUPPORT STRONG AND EFFICIENT MILITARY FORCES....  
WE WILL NOT ALLOW ANY OTHER NATION TO GAIN MILITARY  
SUPERIORITY OVER US."

2. HAL PIPER OF BALTIMORE SUN, REPORTING FROM MOSCOW, SAID

"WARNING THAT 'ITS PATIENCE IS NOT WITHOUT LIMIT,' SOVIET UNION TODAY DELIVERED ANOTHER PESSIMISTIC APPRAISAL OF STALLED ARMS CONTROL TALKS." HE SAID PRAVDA COMPLAINED OF "INVOLVED AND CONTRADICTORY STATEMENTS MADE OF LATE IN WASHINGTON, INCLUDING WHITE HOUSE," AND IMPLICITLY QUESTIONED COHERENCE OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY AND GENUINENESS OF ITS COMMITMENT TO STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION. IF "U.S. OFFICIALS" ARE SEEKING "UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE" FROM SALT NEGOTIATIONS, PRAVDA SAID, "THEY SHOULD UNDERSTAND LONG SINCE THAT THIS IS WASTE OF TIME. IF THEY MERELY PRETEND THAT U.S. IS IN FAVOR OF AGREEMENT, WHILE IN REALITY IT HAS QUITE DIFFERENT PURPOSE, SUCH STAND CANNOT BE MAINTAINED FOR LONG, FOR TRUTH WILL BE REVEALED." PIPER SAID COMMENTARY COMES AGAINST BACKGROUND OF "STEADILY GROWING DISCORD BETWEEN U.S. AND SOVIET UNION. ONE SENIOR WESTERN OFFICIAL HERE MEASURED TWO COUNTRIES' RELATIONS 'ON SCALE OF 10, AT 3.5 -- AND LIKELY TO GO DOWN.'" SUN CORRESPONDENT NOTED THAT CARTER AND BRZEZINSKI HAVE BOTH SAID PRESENT CLIMATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND USSR IS LIKELY TO AFFECT UNCLASSIFIED

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AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION AND MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO RATIFY SALT AGREEMENT, EVEN IF ONE IS ACHIEVED. THOUGH IT DID NOT NAME ANY U.S. OFFICIAL, PRAVDA SEIZED UPON THIS POINT, ATTACKING IDEA "THAT PROSPECTS OF CONCLUDING AGREEMENT MUST BE CONNECTED WITH OTHER, UNRELATED MATTERS, FOR INSTANCE WITH EVENTS IN HORN OF AFRICA." PIPER REPORTED THAT "PRAVDA RECALLED 'COUPLE OF YEARS AGO' WHEN IT SAID U.S. ATTEMPTED TO USE SALT AS BARGAINING LEVER. THIS APPARENTLY WAS REFERENCE TO ANGOLA, WHERE SOVIET-BACKED CUBAN SOLDIERS INTERVENED IN CIVIL WAR AND INSTALLED PRO-SOVIET SOVIET GOVERNMENT.... PRAVDA NOTED PROGRESS ON SALT 'AS RESULT OF JOINT EFFORTS' LAST YEAR, BUT IT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT U.S. WAS RETURN TO AN 'OBSTRUCTIONIST POSITION.'"

3. WASHINGTON POST, IN DISPATCH FROM GENEVA, SAID U.S., USSR AND BRITAIN ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT THEY HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN EIGHT MONTHS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON BANNING ALL NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS. POST SAID THREE NUCLEAR POWERS REPORTED TO 30-NATION CCD THAT "NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POINTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN AGREED, AND ON SOME OUTSTANDING ISSUES DIFFERENCES BETWEEN POSITIONS OF

PARTICIPANTS HAVE NARROWED." POST SAID THREE NATIONS DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT DIFFERENCES WERE NARROWED. YESTERDAY'S STATEMENT, POST ADDED, GAVE NO INDICATION WHEN TALKS MIGHT BE COMPLETED.

4. NEW YORK TIMES AND CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR PUBLISHED REUTER DISPATCH FROM VIENNA REPORTING THAT NATO AND WARSAW

PACT NATIONS ANNOUNCED AGREEMENT YESTERDAY ON RULES FOR FIGURING MILITARY MANPOWER AND SAID THEY HAD EXCHANGED DATA AT MBFR CONFERENCE. DISPATCH SAID "AGREEMENT WAS CAUTIOUSLY WELCOMED BY DIPLOMATS ON BOTH SIDES IN HOPES THAT EXCHANGE, ENDING MONTHS OF ARGUMENT, WOULD SPEED NEGOTIATIONS AT DEADLOCKED CONFERENCE. OFFICIALS SAID UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT COMPROMISE HAD BEEN REACHED ON BREAKDOWN OF OVER-ALL MANPOWER STATISTICS PRESENTED BY TWO SIDES IN 1976, AND DETAILED FIGURES WERE EXCHANGED THIS WEEK."

5. JAMES J. BROWN, ASSOCIATED EDITOR OF MCCLATCHY NEWS-PAPERS, RECENTLY ATTENDED DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONFERENCE FOR EDITORS AND BROADCASTERS. IN PUBLISHED REPORT ON CONFERENCE, BROWN SAID "PAUL WARNKE, THIS NATION'S CHIEF DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATOR, IS NO DIPLOMATIC SOFTY, READY TO JEOPARDIZE U.S. SECURITY SIMPLY TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH RUSSIANS ON NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITATION. WARNKE IS COOL, CALCULATING POKER PLAYER IN HIGH STAKES EFFORT WHICH COULD DECIDE FATE OF MUCH OF WORLD IN YEARS TO COME. FEW MEN HAVE BETTER GRASP OF REALITIES INVOLVED IN AWESOME MATTER OF TRYING TO REVERSE RELIANCE ON NUCLEAR BALANCE OF TERROR BY U.S. AND SOVIET UNION." BROWN SAID "JUDGING BY SOME OF QUESTIONS, WARNKE'S MISSION IN STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS IN GENEVA WAS REGARDED BY MANY OF NEWS PEOPLE AT OUTSET WITH SAME DOUBTS EXPRESSED IN SENATE CONFIRMATION HEARINGS ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS DIRECTOR OF ACDA.... BEFORE SESSION WAS OVER, WARNKE'S SUCCINCT, HIGHLY KNOWLEDGEABLE ANSWERS HAD OBVIOUSLY WON OVER MOST OF THOSE WHO HAD HAD ANY UNCERTAINTIES." VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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